



*1160 WhiteOak Rd.
Thomson, GA 30824
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MEMO: SENIOR BAND LETTER JACKET POLICY

Subject: Senior Letter Jacket Policy

Effective: School Year 2007-2008

This policy supersedes any previous policy put forth by the Bulldog Brigade before 29 AUG 2007.

Purpose:

- 1. To better accommodate students joining the Thomson High School Beginning Band program that are unable to complete four full years of membership in the performance band.**
- 2. To reward students who are in good standing and successfully complete the requirements of the Bulldog Brigade Performance Bands.**
- 3. To accommodate students that transfer from other schools.**
- 4. To utilize and promote the annual Band Banquet for the awarding of letters and bars upon successful completion of the band/school year.**

Requirements to letter and receive a letter jacket in the Bulldog Brigade Band:

- 1. Students who complete 4 successful years in the Marching Band and Performance Bands of the Bulldog Brigade will earn the privilege of having the THS Band Boosters purchase the basic cost of their jacket. This includes the Jacket, Letter, Name, and other items that are not considered to be extra costs. This excludes patches and all extra accoutrements.**

Special Note – Performance Bands include all instrumental Band Classes except Intermediate Band, Intermediate Band Status and Beginning Band. Students who participate in cheerleading, football, softball or other extra curricular sports during the time of Marching Season are not eligible for the Boosters to buy their jacket. STUDENTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE MARCHING BAND DURING THE FALL AND PERFORMANCE CONCERT BAND (Symphonic, Honors Ensemble, or ADV Band) DURING THE SPRING.

2. **Students must remain in good standing for the entire band year and not be removed from the band program for issues dealing with improper behavior or other reasons stated in the Band Handbook.**

Special Note – The Director of Bands will determine if a student is in good standing with the band program.

3. **Students will be awarded bars and letters for BAND in accordance to the steps listed below:**
 - a. **Successful completion of 1 (ONE) year in the PERFORMANCE Band program earns the Student 1 (ONE) Bar, which will be awarded at the annual BAND BANQUET.**
 - b. **Successful completion of 2 (TWO) years in the PERFORMANCE Band program earns the Student 2 (TWO) Bars, which will be awarded at the annual BAND BANQUET.**

Special Note – If the student is a senior during this time frame, he or she will receive the letter “T” in place of the second bar upon completion of the MARCHING BAND SEASON. Once the “T” Letter is given, the student has earned the privilege to purchase (at the student’s own expense) his or her own official letter jacket from the official BAND/SCHOOL company.

- c. **Successful completion of 3 (THREE) years of the PERFORMANCE Band program earns the student the cherished THOMSON “T” which will be awarded at the annual BAND BANQUET.**

Special Note – If the student is a senior during this time frame, he or she will receive the letter “T” in place of the second bar upon completion of the MARCHING BAND SEASON. Once the “T” Letter is given, the student has earned the privilege to purchase (at the student’s own expense) his or her own official letter jacket from the official BAND/SCHOOL company.

- d. **Successful completion of 4 (FOUR) years of the PERFORMANCE Band program earns the student the final BAR and a letter Jacket in accordance with STEP 1 of this section. The BAR will be awarded after successful completion of the marching season when Jackets are distributed. Students will be presented a SENIOR PLAQUE at the Annual Band Banquet in lieu of the last BAR.**

PERFORMANCE BAND IS DEFINED AS:

All instrumental Band Classes except Intermediate Band, Intermediate Band Status and Beginning Band. STUDENTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE MARCHING BAND DURING THE FALL AND PERFORMANCE CONCERT BAND (Symphonic, Honors Ensemble, or ADV Band) DURING THE SPRING. Students who participate in cheerleading, football, softball or other extra curricular sports in lieu of full time MARCHING BAND are not eligible for BAR/ LETTER credit in BAND for that year/period.

CURRENT BAND STUDENTS OF 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR:

If a current band student has completed 2(two) or 3(three) years of PERFORMANCE BAND (as defined above) and is a SENIOR then he or she is eligible to purchase (at their own expense) an official “Thomson High School Bulldog Brigade Letter Jacket” from the official Band/ School Company. 2 (TWO) years of completion will merit 1 (ONE) Bar and the letter “T”. 3 (THREE) years of completion will merit 2(TWO) Bars and the letter “T”. STUDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED IN BAND THIS YEAR, FOR THE FALL AND SPRING, TO BE ELIGIBLE. Students who are no longer in the band program will fall under the old policy of lettering after the completion of 4(FOUR) successful years in the MARCHING/ PERFORMANCE BAND PROGRAM.

Instructions for current band students who fall in this category:

- 1. You must get an approval from the DIRECTOR OF BANDS that you are currently in good standing in the BAND PROGRAM. The Director of Bands will then submit your name to the Letter Jacket Company for the LETTER and BAR or BARS.**
- 2. You will be able to size for a jacket in December when the THS Athletes Size.**
- 3. Payment for your jacket must be received before the Jacket is distributed by the Band/ School.**
- 4. Current seniors wishing to cut some or all of the cost of the Jacket purchase may do so by participating in the current BAND FUNDRAISER. Please see the DIRECTOR OF BANDS for more info.**

ALL DECISIONS OR INTERPRETATIONS ON THE BAND LEVEL WILL BE FINALIZED BY THE DIRECTOR OF BANDS.

**Jessie Morlan
Director of Bands
Thomson High School**